Alaska
Regulatory
Pest Management
Supplemental Information

Category One

In general, applicators who apply pesticides to property other than their own, or act as a pesticide consultant must obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Pesticide Program. Applicators who apply restricted-use pesticides, regardless of location, must also be certified.

Category One, Regulatory Pest Management, is intended for state, federal, or other governmental employees who apply pesticides to manage **pests which are regulated by state or federal laws**.

The information needed to successfully complete the written core examination required for all certified pesticide applicators in Alaska includes:

1. National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual;
2. Alaska Core Manual Supplement; and
3. State of Alaska Pesticide Regulations in Title 18, Chapter 90 of the Alaska Administrative Code (18 AAC 90)

The information needed to successfully obtain certification in Category One in Alaska includes:

1. This Alaska Supplemental Manual; and
2. Alaska Department of Fish and Game *Rat Control for Alaska Waterfront Facilities*, http://seagrant.uaf.edu/lib/mab/62/mab-62.pdf.

Learning Objectives

- Explain why introduced organisms have the potential to become serious pests.
- Explain some reasons why an organism might be designated as a regulated pest.
- Name the Alaska state agencies responsible for control of regulated pests, and describe their authorities.
- Describe the five components of a regulatory pest management program.
- Describe factors that should be considered when selecting a pesticide to control regulated pests.
- Explain why knowledge of life cycles and biology of a pest is important in determining effective control measures.

FEDERAL REGULATED PEST AUTHORITY

Organisms that are introduced to new areas can become serious pests. Environmental conditions, diseases, predators, parasites, and other factors that keep the population of the organism at levels where no significant damage occurs may not be present in the new area.

Regulated pests can include any type of pest that poses a threat to resources. Pests may include weeds, insects, or other animals which may harm agriculture, the environment, wildlife, or cause other negative impacts. Pests may also include viruses, fungus, and other diseases or pathogens which can reduce plant vigor and crop yields.

Pests that are widespread or pose significant threats may be federally regulated. Federally regulated pests are identified in the U.S Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR 300-399). Information about federally regulated pests may be found at the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) website.
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/regulated_pest_list.shtml

The federal ***Plant Protection Act of 2000*** consolidated several different federal laws into one comprehensive law that provides authority to regulate plants, plant products, and plant pests. This act includes several provisions designed to protect agriculture, the environment, and citizens from the economic and environmental harm caused by pests. Actions can include prohibition or restriction on the movement of a plant or plant product, if necessary to prevent the introduction or spread of a plant pest or noxious weed. It can also include seizure, quarantine, treatment, or destruction of any plant, plant product, or plant pest, to prevent the introduction or spread of a plant pest or noxious weed.

ALASKA STATE REGULATED PEST AUTHORITY

Pests that are of specific concern to Alaska may be regulated at the state level through various agencies.

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture has authority under Alaska Statute AS 03.05.010 to regulate distribution and use of plants, plant products, nursery stock, feeds, agricultural chemicals, and other substances to prevent the spread of pests and disease. This includes establishment of state quarantines, as outlined in Title 11, Chapter 34 of the Alaska Administrative Code.

These statutes and regulations allow the Division of Agriculture to:

- Regulate the sale, distribution, use, or entry into Alaska of plants, plant products, nursery stock, feeds, agricultural chemicals, and other substances;
- Establish quarantines for specified or newly identified pests;
- Examine and inspect premises containing products that may carry pests;
- Sample, inspect, or analyze agricultural products; and
- Destroy or treat pests.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has authority under AS 16.05.255 to regulate both exotic and native animals. They may also conduct habitat and watershed improvement activities, which could include control of various types of pests or invasive species.

REGULATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Regulatory pest management programs use several different strategies, which generally progress through the follow sequence:

1. Identification of risk.
2. Prevention of entry.
3. Survey and detection.
4. Eradication.

5. Retardation of spread and mitigation of losses.

Identification of risk includes recognition of the potential for an insect, disease, or other pest to cause harm, and evaluation of the probability that the pest may become established in an area. If a pest that has the potential to cause significant harm and has a likelihood of becoming established in an area, then further steps may be warranted.

The primary strategy to prevent pests from becoming established in a new area is to exclude pest entry through the use of quarantines. Quarantines may be applied through either state or federal authority.

Survey and detection activities should occur throughout a quarantine period, with the intent of discovering any infestations while they are still small enough to eradicate. Monitoring involves a regular and methodical procedure to quantify any pest presence.

If prevention is not successful and a pest becomes established, the sooner eradication efforts are begun, the more likely they will be successful. A control is only beneficial if it results in significant long term reduction in pest populations. A control may be very effective against a given stage of a pest, and still have limited long-term value. The selection of proper methods of control and suitable pesticides must consider many factors, including:

- pest species,
- pest life cycle,
- method of dispersal or spread of pest,
- pest's mode of attack,
- host species,
- size of infestation,
- location of infestation,
- potential effects on vulnerable environments or non-target species.

Eradication is often not feasible if populations are not identified and controlled early. In cases where the pest has become established, objectives will be different depending on the pest populations, the damage being caused by the pest, and the likelihood of further spread of the pest. The same methods can be applied to try to slow or prevent the spread of the pest, or to mitigate damage caused by the pest.

REGULATED PESTS IN ALASKA

Rats

Rats are regulated in Alaska because they spread disease, contaminate food, damage vessels and buildings, and harm native wildlife. The State of Alaska has regulations to help prevent and eliminate rats.

More specific information about rat control in Alaska, as outlined in the objectives above, can be found in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game *Rat Control for Alaska Waterfront Facilities* guide.

Other Pests

Other than rats, the state of Alaska does not have any specifically regulated pests as of 2012. However, regulations may be drafted to specify insects, diseases, and other pests to be regulated in Alaska. This manual will be updated when this list becomes available.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME *RAT CONTROL FOR ALASKA WATERFRONT FACILITIES*

Learning Objectives

Regulation

- List activities and actions related to rodents that are illegal in the state of Alaska.
- Describe the identification, biology, development, behaviors, and damage caused by rodents.
- List some human health problems caused by rodents.
- Explain how rodent populations can impact wildlife.
- Explain the purposes of inspecting an area for rodents.
- Describe the various signs of rodents that should be looked for during an inspection.
- List three types of non-natural food sources that rats rely on.
- Describe ways to improve sanitation to help reduce rodents.
- Describe the types of pathways that rats prefer.
- Describe the types of shelter areas that rats prefer.
- Describe some methods to prevent rats from coming ashore from ships or boats.
- Describe some methods to control or prevent rats from invading ships or boats.
- List methods to exclude rodents from entry into a structure.
- Describe good locations for placement of rodent traps.
- Describe three effective stations to protect rodent traps.
- List effective ways to bait traps.
- Explain how most current rodenticides kill rats and mice.
- List some of the safety features of rodenticides that are designed to help prevent accidental poisoning of children and dogs.
- State the best way to prevent non-target animals from accessing rodenticide.
- State how often bait stations should be checked.
- Describe how to place bait stations for most effective rat control, including how far apart bait stations should be placed.
- Describe some hazards associated with the use of pellet rodenticides.
- Describe a situation where liquid bait would be appropriate.
- Explain how tracking powder works to kill rodents.

- Describe some precautions that must be taken when using tracking powders.
- Explain why rodent control will not be successful if it only targets a single site.
- List some elements of an effective rodent control plan.

Before Using Any Pesticide

STOP

All pesticides can be harmful to health and environment if misused.

Read the label carefully. Use only as directed.